

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505



OLL 84-3108

18 JUN 1984

The Honorable Dave Durenberger
Select Committee on Intelligence
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Durenberger:

Because of your previously expressed desire to make more declassified material available to historians, I know that you would be interested in learning that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has now transferred the first set, consisting of about 200 feet, of Office of Strategic Services (OSS) operational records to the National Archives who accessioned and opened them for public review on 11 June 1984. This is the first increment of approximately 2000 or more feet that will be transferred over the next year. The National Archives will open each succeeding increment to the public as they complete their standard archival processing. The types of records included in this initial group are records from the History Office file, Foreign Nationalities Branch file, and Operation Group Command file of the OSS; war diaries of the London field station; records relating to secret intelligence operations of the OSS; administrative records of the OSS; and scattered records from the Office of Director of OSS. These records will provide serious historians and others interested in World War II intelligence operations with additional information on that period in our history.

This transfer of OSS records constitutes an important first step in implementing the selective declassification program I promised to initiate last October.

The progress that has been made on declassifying records of historical importance and the parallel progress the Senate has made on passing FOIA relief legislation for the Agency proves that we can forge a workable means of informing the public

while still protecting our nation's secrets. However, there is still much that needs to be done. Our FOIA relief legislation, having been unanimously reported out of the HPSCI, has not yet been acted upon by the House Government Operations Committee. I believe that without early action on the FOIA relief bill, there is strong possibility that Congress may not have enough time to act on the legislation before the end of the session. Such a result would not be in the interest of the CIA or the public. I know that I can count on your full support to ensure that this vitally important piece of legislation is enacted this year.

Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

OLL:LEG:DMP:sm (13 June 1984)

Distribution:

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Declassification of OSS Records

FROM: Deputy Director, Office of Legislative Liaison		EXTENSION 	NO. OLL 84-3108
			DATE JUN 1984
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED	
1. O/OIS 1206 Ames	6/13/84		<p>The National Archives will shortly make public the first installment of OSS records held by the Agency. Since Senator Durenberger conditioned his support for our FOIA relief bill on our promise to undertake a program to make more declassified material available to historians, I would recommend that you sign the attached letter informing Senator Durenberger that we have followed through on our promise and that we expect his continued support in securing FOIA relief legislation.</p>
2.			
3. DDA	15 JUN 1984		
4.			
5. ExDir	15 JUN 1984		
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7. DDCI	15 JUN 1984		
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9. DCI	18 June 84		
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11. DD/OLL	18 JUN 1984		
12. C/Reg. Div. /OLL			
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